

CROWN OF ST. STEPHEN

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West, by this means was neutralized and silenced forever. President Nixon's route to Moscow has now been cleared for travel and the Vatican can accomplish, within the limitations set by the agreement it entered into with the Kremlin, whatever it may have in mind behind the Iron Curtain.

The ordeal Jozsef Cardinal Mindszenty went through at the hands of the Hungarian regime, because he dared to defy them on behalf of his faith, is well known throughout the free world. For over a quarter of a century he endured 10 years of solitary confinement and torture at the hands of sadistic AVOs, yet could never be broken. During the Hungarian Revolution of 1956, he was the first prisoner released by the Hungarian Freedom Fighters. When Khrushchev smothered the revolt in a bloodbath, the Cardinal-Primate sought and was granted asylum in the American embassy in Budapest. There he remained in seclusion for 15 long years in the hope that his people would not lose the faith while he was present in Hungary, but on American soil. During all this time, he vowed that he would never leave Hungary no matter what pressures were put upon him to do so. It would be naive, therefore, to believe that he left Hungary of his own free will. What he said upon his departure, confirms this view. "This is the heaviest cross of my life," said the 79-year old martyr.

That Jozsef Cardinal Mindszenty was forced to bow under papal pressure, has not been denied by the Vatican at all. Neither was it denied that this pressure was exerted by the Vatican in collusion with the Government of the United States and for the sake of joint "Ostpolitik." Nor was it denied that, in connection with his exodus, the sacred Crown of St. Stephen was the pay-off. In fact, this was revealed in the October 21, 1971 edition of the SALZBURGER NACHRICHTEN, an Austrian daily paper enjoying great respect throughout the free world. But the best confirmation came from Jozsef Cardinal Mindszenty himself!

Somehow, the aged Cardinal, who is now confined in the Pazmaneum next door to the U.S. embassy in Vienna, managed to get a letter forwarded to Congressman Lawrence J. Hogan. In it, he thanked the congressman for his efforts to stop the return of the Crown of St. Stephen to Hungary and expressed a wish that the sacred relic remain in U.S. custody for the time being. **WHETHER HIS WISH WILL BE GRANTED, NOW DEPENDS UPON THE AMERICAN PEOPLE!**

More Time-Staggered Events

On November 28, 1971, a UPI release datelined from Washington inferred that under no conditions would the U.S. consider returning the Crown of St. Stephen and implied that, if it did, a congressional revolt would put a stop to it. But, almost immediately after the publication of this news report, Lajos Lederer reported from London that, indeed, secret talks were already in progress between the U.S. State Department and the Hungarian regime. He also reported that Washington's willingness to consider the return of the crown, which is the oldest Christian symbol of independence and secular authority in Europe, was attributed by insiders to President Nixon's new policy toward the communist world, the aim being to return the crown to Hungary before Nixon's visit to Moscow in May as a gesture to ease East-West tensions.

On December 1, 1971, Congressman John R. Rarick hit the floor of Congress with a blistering speech demanding that the betrayal of the Holy Crown of St. Stephen of Hungary must be prevented at all costs. His speech was printed in full in that day's issue of the Congressional Record. On February 9, 1972, the Hon. Ella T. Grasso of Connecticut did the same, but also provided proof that the U.S. had assured Jozsef Cardinal Mindszenty on February 6, 1972, that the crown would remain in American custody.



CROWN OF ST. STEPHEN, symbol of Christian rule in Hungary and the ultimate triumph of Christianity in all Europe. A symbolic relic of tremendous political and religious significance.

On February 20, 1972, spearheaded by the Hungarian Freedom Fighters of New Jersey, American-Hungarian elements throughout the United States began to voice public protests against any return of the sacred relic to Hungary. Surprisingly, they were joined by many members of the clergy of the Roman Catholic Church. It is not unreasonable to assume that this protest will attain cyclonic proportions in the not too distant future, especially if Washington has already secretly returned the relic to Budapest. Meanwhile, of course, the press, radio, and TV have stepped up their reportage of possible war-debt talks between Washington and Moscow and have gone so far out on the limb in their enthusiasm as to claim that only \$500-million separates the two from a settlement. The purpose behind this obvious tomfoolery is to calm down possibilities of militant protest over the return of the Crown of St. Stephen to Hungary for fear that, if there is an eruption, Moscow will refuse to pay us what it owes. To add to all this noise and to the confusion, we are also expected to believe all of a sudden that there is a resurgence of religiosity behind the Iron Curtain, even though on August 10, 1967, a hearing before the Committee on Un-American Activities, House of Representatives, 90th Congress, First Session, brought out conclusive evidence to the contrary.

It does seem from all this that, whatever Washington may have in mind regarding the return of the sacred Crown of St. Stephen, its propaganda machinery is already in full swing to soften up the ignorant masses to accept the idea.

Significance of the Crown

St. Stephen of Hungary (977-1038), the son of Geza, Duke of Hungary, embraced Christianity, was baptized into the faith, and assumed the name of the first Christian martyr when he ascended the Hungarian throne at the age of 20. During his reign, he made the conversion of his subjects his primary domestic objective, dedicated his country to the Blessed Virgin, and for such efforts obtained from Rome the title of Apostolic King. In the year 1000 A.D., Pope Sylvester II presented to him the Holy Crown which, today, is known with reverence as the Holy Crown of St. Stephen.

To Hungarians everywhere, to Roman Catholics the world over, to Christendom, and to all peoples behind the Iron Curtain especially among those who still remember faith of their fathers, the sacred Crown of St. Stephen is a symbolic relic of tremendous religious and political significance. For, whoever possesses the crown rules over Hungary as a Christian nation and as defender of Western Civilization. To the peoples of other captive nations, the crown represents hope of eventual freedom, as well as the eventual supremacy and sovereignty of Christianity. It follows then that, inasmuch as the authority to rule Hungary rests within the Crown of St. Stephen and as confirmed by Hungarian history for almost 1,000 years, possession of this priceless treasure would provide the present Hungarian regime with a cloak of historical legitimacy. It would also tend to squelch any possibilities of a rebirth of Christian supremacy and sovereignty over the state, and would also tend to nip in the bud any hopes for a revival of religiosity and a renewal of freedom. Needless to add, it would

also signify the death of Christianity behind the Iron Curtain through the merger of Church and State.

To Christians the world over, the sacred Crown of St. Stephen means a very great deal. Yet, it is a foreign-born, naturalized American Jew who is engineering the return of this sacred relic to the atheistic, Hungarian state. Dr. Henry Kissinger, President Nixon's top foreign policy advisor and architect of the Nixon Administration's new policy towards Sino-Soviet-American relations, is the man responsible for the secret, diplomatic machinations already underway to return the relic to Hungary BEFORE President Nixon leaves for Moscow. The return is supposed to serve as a signal to Moscow and the Soviet-bloc of captive nations that our government recognizes Soviet supremacy over all of the territory enclosed behind the Iron Curtain. In other words, it would be a re-confirmation of the agreement reached at the Potsdam Conference in which Europe was split into two spheres of inviolate influence. The man handling the negotiations with the Hungarian Government is U.S. Ambassador Alfred Puhon, whose pro-Soviet inclinations are a matter of official record.

What Is Being Done

Led by U.S. Representative Lawrence J. Hogan (R-Maryland), thirty-nine members of the House have endorsed a Concurrent Resolution (H. Con. Res. 476) expressing the sense of Congress that the Holy Crown of Saint Stephen should remain in the safekeeping of the United States Government until Hungary once again functions as a constitutional government established by the Hungarian people through free choice. This group of congressmen is also pressing for a public hearing before the House Foreign Affairs Committee, while Congressman Hogan wrote a letter to President Nixon in which he requested presidential comment on the reported negotiations to return the crown to Hungary. As of this writing, he has not been favored with a reply.

In the Senate, Senator Robert Dole (R-Kansas) and Senator Strom Thurmond (R-S.C.) are heading up a group of senators pushing the adoption of the same kind of concurrent resolution as the one introduced in the House.

While awaiting a decision on their resolution, this group of senators has begun to circulate a memorandum on the Holy Crown prepared by Dr. Bela C. Maday, copies of which have already been delivered to the White House and among all members of the Senate.

This is where the matter rests at the moment. But, unfortunately, no one has thought of asking the State Department how it got possession of the crown, where it is now, who is in charge of it, and what it intends to do with it — if it still has it. It has been said that the relic rests in a safe place at Fort Knox. But, so far, no one can be found who has seen it at any time during the past 25 years!

What Must Be Done

Actually, what will finally be done with the sacred Crown of St. Stephen, within which is embodied the right to rule, depends almost entirely upon public reaction to the pressing issue. That is, if the relic has not already been returned to Hungary in secrecy. Either way, the voice of the people must be heard in Washington.

COMMON SENSE calls upon all of its readers to order more copies of this issue for distribution so that as many people as possible will know about this case. In addition, **COMMON SENSE** calls upon all of its readers to either write, wire, or telephone their elected representatives in Washington with the demand that they back either the senatorial or congressional, concurrent resolutions mentioned in this article.

By whatever means possible, the American people must stop the return of the Holy Crown of St. Stephen to Hungary! And, if already secretly returned, they MUST let it be known loud and clear that such perfidy will no longer be tolerated in American Government!